



CURSO: MESTRADO E DOUTORADO EM LETRAS

PROCESSO SELETIVO 2020.1

PROVA DE PROFICIÊNCIA EM LÍNGUA INGLESA – 25/10/2019

Instruções:

- I. O objetivo desta prova é avaliar a capacidade de leitura e de interpretação de textos científicos em Língua Inglesa.
- II. É permitida a utilização de um dicionário impresso durante a prova.
- III. Evite responder às questões com traduções literais de partes ou fragmentos do texto.
- IV. Responder às questões com caneta esferográfica de tinta azul ou preta.
- V. Responda em português, na folha de respostas, às cinco questões sobre o texto *Opening up #jesuisCharlie anatomy of a Twitter discussion with mixed methods*, de Marjut Johansson; Aki-Juhani Kyröläinen,; Attila Krizsán,; Lotta Lehti,; Veronika Laippala,; Filip Ginter (2018).
- VI. Enumere, na folha de respostas, as questões respondidas.
- VII. As questões valem 2,0 (dois) pontos cada uma.

Texto

JOHANSSON, Marjut; KYRÖLÄINEN, Aki-Juhani; KRIZSÁN, Attila; LEHTI, Lotta; LAIPPALA, Veronika; GINTER, Filip. Opening up #jesuisCharlie anatomy of a Twitter discussion with mixed methods. **Journal of Pragmatics**, v. 129, p. 90-101, May 2018. [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pragma.2018.03.007]

1. Introduction

The terrorist attack on the editorial office of the left-wing satirical magazine, *Charlie Hebdo*, on January 7, 2015, was a prominent news event that was followed by global participation in social media. *Charlie Hebdo* has been a controversial weekly publication since its inception in the 1960s. Mostly using cartoons, it targets sensitive socio-cultural topics and aims at severe criticism of politics, culture, and religion. This has led to many controversies and court cases (cf. Boumédiene et al., 2017, Nugier and Guimond, 2016). The most serious one was the republication of the Muhammed cartoons in 2006, which had originally been published by the Danish *Jyllands Posten* a year earlier. Although the republication led to heated debates in the French media, the court ruled that the limits of freedom of speech were not



exceeded (Nugier and Guimond, 2016: 46). In all, this incident had a strong impact on the Muslim community in France and led to a negative attitude against *Charlie Hebdo* (Nugier and Guimond, 2016: 46).

The terrorist attack began with shootings at an editorial meeting, in which the two main perpetrators killed twelve persons. The next day, five more persons were killed in follow-up attacks. These events were brought to an end by the police, who killed the three terrorists. Investigation later proved that the attack had been domestic, as the terrorists were all French citizens (Nugier and Guimond, 2016: 45). This disruptive news event was immediately given global media coverage and solidarity marches took place all over the world. Very soon after the attack had begun, the micro-blogging site Twitter exploded with tweets containing the hashtag #jesuisCharlie (*I am Charlie* in French), referring to the title of the magazine. The hashtag was formed on the basis of the logo created by art director Jacques Roncin. This was one of the most tweeted news events of its time, at the rate of 6500 tweets per minute (Whitehead, 2015).

This news event has been the object of various studies. In media sciences, the news stories on the *Charlie Hebdo* attacks unfolded over several days as the events took place and were characterized as a hybrid media event (Sumiala et al., 2016). Smyrnaio and Ratinaud (2017) conducted a network and cluster analysis identifying the communities that participated in the discussion and their topics. They discovered that the most important themes were a news event, freedom of speech, journalists, sympathy and condolences, expressions of horror and resentment, religious fanaticism, and judgment of the terrorists (Smyrnaio and Ratinaud, 2017: 7–8). Similar themes were found in linguistically-oriented studies of cartoons posted on social media (Bouko et al., 2017). Giaxoglou (2017) examined the hashtags #Charlie Hebdo and #jesuisCharlie as well as other hashtags used in sharing stories in the ecstatic participation in Twitter during this event. In addition, different, opposing counter-discourses emerged at this time, for instance in the forum discussions about the terrorist attack: users condemned the assault, but did not accept the satirical views of the *Charlie Hebdo* magazine (Badouard, 2016).

Our study differs from the previously mentioned studies in two fundamental ways: first, our study considers this *massive and global* social media discussion as a *linguistic* object. Our aim is to open up the large-scale data set in a way that will allow us to consider into the type of claims that have been made in this discussion and establish what we call here its *anatomy*. Second, we use a mixed methods approach that differs from the studies mentioned above to shed more light on tweeting after a disruptive situation.



Our study opts to describe a type of Twitter discussion that does not represent what Zappavigna (2011) calls “ambient affiliation” in which participants share bonds and belonging nor it represents a Twitter discussion that Page (2012) calls a marketplace for self-branding and micro-celebrity. We start with the view that the *Charlie Hebdo* event was a hybrid news event that took place over days in several places and involved multiples actors (Chadwick, 2013, Sumiala et al., 2016: 100).

Our objective is to study the kind of social interaction that took place in tweets that were posted with the hashtag #jesuisCharlie. We focus on the kind of opinions that users tweeted by investigating the following questions:

- 1) What are the main topics in this Twitter discussion?
- 2) How are opinions expressed in typical tweets?

Our analysis aims at dissecting the nature of this #jesuisCharlie discussion with mixed methods. The main reason for taking this approach is the size of our data: we will focus on over 0.25 million tweets, which is why it will be necessary to use language technology methods to sort the topics in these tweets. Specifically, we will use clustering, a commonly used method in data analysis to identify previously unknown groupings in data (see Kaufman and Rousseeuw, 1990). In the second phase of the study, we will conduct a quantitative analysis that focuses on modality (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2014), and then perform a qualitative digital discourse analysis of topical clusters, concentrating on how opinions are expressed in the tweets, through the study of stancetaking and positioning (Davies and Harré, 1990, DuBois, 2007, Weizman, 2008).

Our first hypothesis about the topics of this Twitter discussion is based on the concept of the *topic of discourse* as “a property of the global meaning” (van Dijk, 1980: 41). This concept relates to the overall idea of what a discourse is all about, and a discourse topic also controls many other aspects of discourse. Regarding online discussions, Lambiase (2010) studied how topics evolved and shifted in a discussion list after a tragic news event in a small-scale corpus. She found that the global topic did not hold as the discussion progressed, but instead topic shifts and derailments were typical (Lambiase, 2010: 16). In contrast to Lambiase, we hypothesize that this online discussion does not consist of one topic, but contains multiple topics that are similar to the discourses that circulated cross-media (Smyrnaio and Ratinaud, 2017, Sumiala et al., 2016: 98).

Our second hypothesis focuses on how users express their opinions in their evaluation and their positioning about different topics. According to various studies, users express opinions that are affective,



diversified, and polarized in several types of massive social media discussions. However, those studies are based on small qualitative data (Bou-Franch and Blitvich, 2014; Badouard, 2016), their approach is centered on media studies from theoretical (Marwick and Boyd, 2011), or network analysis perspective (Papacharissi, 2015). They have showed that during tragic news events, networked publics engage and show compassion with an affective response (cf. Papacharissi, 2015: 7). When sociopolitical issues arise in which values are concerned, diversification and polarization will emerge in the positioning that users take (Bou-Franch and Blitvich, 2014; Badouard, 2016, Smyrnaio and Ratinaud, 2017). In his qualitative analysis, Mercier (2016: 139) considers Twitter to be a space for counterpublics to formulate polemic and criticism and to destabilize opponents, especially in the political context. In a study that focused on discussion forum comments, Ferenčík (2017) found that identification and expressions belonging to a moral order were prominent in counter-discourse. We hypothesize that stancetaking will be affective, diversified, and polarized in our massive discussion, but in contrast to above mentioned studies, our linguistically-based approach aims at explaining the types of affectivity, polarization, and diversification in different topical clusters within the global discussion.

QUESTÕES

1. Evidencie o objetivo, a metodologia empregada e as perguntas de investigação do estudo.
2. Descreva como o texto apresenta o ataque terrorista à redação da revista satírica Charlie Hebdo em 7 de janeiro de 2015 e a formação da hashtag #jesuisCharlie (eu sou Charlie em francês).
3. Explique dois dos estudos realizados anteriormente a este e que foram citados no texto pelos autores.
4. Como o presente estudo difere dos estudos anteriores mencionados no texto?
5. Quais as hipóteses apresentadas pelos autores acerca dos tópicos da discussão abordada neste estudo?